

# Homeschooling Boys - Talking Points

“Homeschooling boys without squashing all that makes them unique as boys. Tips and suggestions to channel their energy and interests and help shape them into the men God created them to be.”

## Homeschooling Tips

1. Keep lessons short
2. Allow work to be done orally
3. Avoid workbooks in primary grades
4. Use notebooking/copywork
5. Allow boys to draw/color while listening to chapter books
6. Take many breaks throughout the day
7. Get outside everyday
8. Remember flexibility is key!
9. Play games that teach
10. Do independent work but keep at a minimum in early years/Divide & Conquer
11. Group work - family style learning works well
12. Use audio books

## *Delight Directed Learning/Interest Led Learning:*

1. Use unit studies on high interest topics like sports, animals, trains, nature, geography
2. Consider Classical Studies - many boys are interested in battles, wars, greek myths, patriotism, and adventure stories
3. Read aloud boy books/high interest books
4. Ask them what they are curious about!

## Encourage Life Skills

1. Help with chores
2. Basic home maintenance
3. Babysitting Class
4. Woodworking - let them build things!
5. Encourage boy projects such as things they might do in cub scouts or boy scouts
6. A paying job
  - a. Earn money
  - b. Time management

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- c. Responsibility to customers
- d. Encourage Entrepreneurship

## Spiritual Life

1. Pray for our sons
2. Teach them how to pray, both traditional prayers such as the rosary as well as spontaneous prayer
3. Get them involved in serving others
4. Altar serve at church
5. Teach them about saints and heroes of the church
6. Frequent the sacraments, follow the church year, liturgical year
7. Prepare them to be the spiritual heads of the home

## Sports/Healthy Living

1. Physical Exercise
2. Proper Nutrition/Healthy Eating
3. Sport Heroes
4. Team/Individual Sports - both have value

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## Further Resources

### *Books for Boys:*

**The Dangerous Handbook for Boys** by Conn Iggulden & Hal Iggulden

**The Boys Book of Survival** by Guy Campbell

**For Boys Only: The Biggest, Baddest Book Ever** by Marc Aronson

**Tin Cup & Tinder: A Catholic Boy's Little Book of Fire, Food & Fun** by Alice Cantrell

### *Books for Boys & Parents:*

**Boyhood & Beyond** by Bob Schultz

**Created for Work** by Bob Schultz

**Be a Man!** by Father Larry Richards

**Made for More** by Curtis Martin

### *Great Read Alouds for Boys:*

**Farmer Boy** by Laura Ingalls Wilder

**Little Britches series** by Ralph Moody

**Daniel Boone: Frontiersman** by Janet & Geoff Benge

**Seaman: The Dog Who Explored the West with Lewis & Clark** by Gail Langer Karwoski

**Boxcar Series** by Gertrude Chandler Warner {original series}

**Hardy Boys** by Franklin W. Dixon {original series}

**The Sign of the Beaver** by Elizabeth George Speare

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